

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 EA-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-14

OC-06 CCO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DOTE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02

SCSE-00 SCA-01 H-02 L-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 /116 W

-----116636 301817Z /46

P R 301757Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7801

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

SECDEF WASHDC

USCINCEUR

UNCLAS LONDON 14489

WASHDC BRUSSELS PASS FAA

DEPT. PASS OTHER APPROPRIATE ADDRESSES

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, CASC, UK

SUBJECT: SITREP ON UK AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL STRIKE NO. 8

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1. CONTINGENCY ARRANGEMENTS ESTABLISHED BY U.K. CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY (CAA) OVER WEEKEND TO HANDLE AIR TRAFFIC AT HEATHROW AND GATWICK WILL CONTINUE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. CAA HAS DEMANDED THAT RETURNING AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL ASSISTANTS (ATCA'S) EMPLOY NORMAL WORKING PROCEDURES AND USE THE COMPUTER WHICH PRIOR TO

THIS BANK HOLIDAY STRIKE THEY HAD REFUSED TO USE. THOSE REFUSING HAVE BEEN GIVEN 48 HOURS TO RECONSIDER OR BE SUSPENDED. ATCA'S UNION IS MEETING THIS AFTERNOON WITH OTHER AIRPORT UNIONS TO ASCERTAIN WHAT SUPPORT IT WOULD RECEIVE IF IT WERE TO CALL A FULL STRIKE, AND IT MEETS TOMORROW MORNING TO DECIDE WHAT ACTION IT WILL TAKE. LIKELIHOOD IS THAT AIR CONTROL SYSTEM WILL CONTINUE OPERATING UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, I.E. WITH CONTINUATION OF CURTAILED FLIGHT SCHEDULES AND SOME DELAYS.

2. DURING WEEKEND FLIGHTS MOVED WITHOUT EXCESSIVE DELAYS. EMBASSY HAD NO GREAT DELUGE OF PHONE CALLS FROM U.S. CITIZENS, POSSIBLY BECAUSE OF EXTENSIVE ADVANCE PUBLICITY GIVEN TO STRIKE. EMBASSY DID SEND OFF A LARGE NUMBER OF INTERESTED PARTY TELEGRAMS FOR U.S. CITIZENS ON 2 DANAIR CHARTERS OUT OF GATWICK WHICH HAD LONG DELAYS IN DEPARTURE. AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS WERE ABLE THROUGHOUT WEEKEND TO HANDLE 15 PLANES IN PEAK HOURS ON NORTH ATLANTIC AND HAVE NOW BUILT UP TO 20 PLANES IN PEAK HOURS. SOME DELAYS BEING EXPERIENCED BECAUSE OF CREW AND EQUIPMENT PROBLEMS, OFTEN ARISING FROM PLANES BEING UNABLE TO RETURN ON TIME FROM SPANISH AND FRENCH AIRPORT

3. PRESENT CONTINGENCY ARRANGEMENTS HAVE REQUIRED CONSOLIDATION OF FLIGHTS AND SOME CUTS, BUT ON THE NORTH ATLANTIC, SCHEDULES HAVE NOT BEEN DRASTICALLY AFFECTED.
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BRITISH AIRWAYS HAS MADE MOST CUTS. PAN AM REPORTS IT HAS ONLY HAD TO CUT ITS FLIGHTS BY APPROXIMATELY 20 PERCENT. THE AIRLINES MAJOR WORRY IS THAT THE ATCA'S MAY GAIN THE SUPPORT OF OTHER UNIONS WHO WOULD REFUSE TO CROSS THEIR PICKET LINES IF THEY STRUCK, IN PARTICULAR, THE FUELERS UNION.

STREATOR

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LONDON14489
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977089/aaaaahah.tel
Line Count: 102
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: b843e360-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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TAGS: EAIR, CASC, UK
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